



Australian Government
**Cotton Research and
Development Corporation**

TRAVEL & CONFERENCE REPORT

Part 1 - Summary Details

Please use your TAB key to complete Parts 1 & 2.

CRDC Project Number: CRDC1202

Project Title: Field to Fabric Course Sponsorship

Project Commencement Date: 22/8/11 Project Completion Date: 26/8/11

Select Research Program (from CRDC Strategic R&D Plan 2008-2013):333

Part 2 – Contact Details

Administrator: Johnelle Rogan
Organisation: RowAg Farming
Postal Address: PO Box 454, St George Q 4487
Ph: 0418721584 **Fax:** 0746252103 **E-mail:** johnellerogan@bigpond.com

Principal Researcher: Johnelle Rogan
Organisation: RowAg Farming
Postal Address: PO Box 454, St George Q 4487
Ph: 0418721584 **Fax:** 0746252103 **E-mail:** johnellerogan@bigpond.com

Supervisor: (Name & position of senior scientist overseeing the project).

Organisation:

Postal Address:

Ph: **Fax:** **E-mail:**

Researcher 2 (Name & position of additional researcher or supervisor).

Organisation:

Postal Address:

Ph: **Fax:** **E-mail:**

Signature of Research Provider Representative:

Part 3 – Travel Report

(Maximum two pages)

1. A brief description of the purpose of the travel.

Travel from St George, Queensland to Geelong, Victoria to attend a three day Field to Fabric Training course conducted by Course Coordinator Rene van der Sluijs at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Materials, Science and Engineering facility at Belmont, Geelong.

2. What were the:

a) major findings and outcomes

The Course was very interesting and informative and was delivered in a way so that quite technical aspects were easy grasp and understand. The attendees came from diverse areas of the cotton industry and this provided healthy debate and discussion as areas of the value chain were highlighted. Covering all areas of the production chain provided much 'food for thought' about the whole cotton fibre value chain, where I (as a grower) fit in and the impacts of all processes on the finished fabric product.

b) other highlights

Being able to discuss the processes involved throughout the cotton fibre value chain and then actually see the machinery working was very beneficial. Having the spinning process described during the theoretical presentation and seeing samples of spun fibre was interesting, but to see the slivers, roving or thread actually being produced cemented the processes involved. Viewing the actual machinery involved (eg. the saws used in the ginning process) in the various processes and in the fabric testing facility gave a new appreciation of cotton and its properties as a fibre.

The calibre and experience of the course presenters ensured interesting and relevant theoretical content. The 'hands on' aspects complemented this.

The course dinner on the Tuesday evening was most enjoyable as we got to mingle and network with the other course attendees and some of the course presenters in an informal setting.

A personal highlight for me was to see non woven wadding being produced by the needle punch method. As a quilter, it was very interesting to see the actual process.

3. Detail the persons and institutions visited, giving full title, position details, location, duration of visit and purpose of visit to these people/places. (NB:- Please provide full names of institutions, not just acronyms.)

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Materials, Science and Engineering facility at Belmont, Geelong.

4. a) Are there any potential areas worth following up as a result of the travel?

Being able to follow the fibre value chain and have contact with spinners and weavers who use our cotton fibre would be beneficial.

A study tour to follow the value chain through to the finished garment.

Every cotton producer should be encouraged to attend the course. The production of quality cotton fibre does not end at the farm gate. Understanding of all the processes involved throughout the value chain gives insight about practices that can be adopted to ensure that the best possible fibre can be produced in the beginning.

b) Any relevance or possible impact on the Australian Cotton Industry?

Production of a uniform, quality fibre is vital to begin the value chain. Australian cotton has a reputation for certain fibre qualities and the industry should continue its quest to protect this through best practices.

5. How do you intend to share the knowledge you have gained with other people in the cotton industry?

A report on the Field to Fabric Course will be presented at the St George Cotton Growers Association General Meeting in September.

I will also willingly contribute to a Spotlight article on the 2011 course if asked to do so.

As an executive member of the St George Cotton Growers Association, I will encourage other Association members to attend the course. The aim is to have at least two representatives from the St George Area attend the course next year.

Having attended the course, I will be able to assist future attendees to organise their travel to the course and to source funding.

6. Please list expenditure incurred. (Double click inside the table to enter the data)

Date	Description	Amount excl GST	GST	Total
22/08/2011	Flights - Moree to Sydney - Sydney to Melbourne	240.08	24.01	264.09
22/08/2011	Shuttle Bus - Melbourne to Geelong	27.27	2.73	30.00
23-25/8/2011	3 day Field to Fabric Course	636.36	63.64	700.00
22-24/8/2011	Geelong accomodation - 3 nights (twin share 50%)	190.91	19.09	210.00
25/08/2011	Flight Geelong to Sydney	48.18	4.82	53.00
25/08/2011	Shuttle bus - Airport to Motel	5.45	0.55	6.00
25/08/2011	Accomodation - Sydney (1 night -twin share 50%)	83.64	8.36	92.00
26/08/2011	Shuttle bus - Motel to Airport	5.45	0.55	6.00
26/08/2011	Flight - Sydney to Moree	192.73	19.27	212.00
				0.00
			TOTAL	1,573.09